

WORDS AND PHOTOS_ANNIE WADDINGTON-FEATHER.



Ice, ice baby

Australia's glacial history awaits you at Hallett Cove.

Recognised as one of the best places to see glacial pavements in Australia, Hallett Cove Conservation Park is a feast for geology buffs. The park, 22km south of Adelaide, has a little of everything with walking trails and boardwalks taking you from native bush into eerie glacial landscapes and along rugged clifftops.

The park was named after John Hallett, who together with Daniel Cox were the first Europeans to discover the area in 1837 whilst searching for a missing horse. The 51-hectare park has several entrances; two have carparks, and one of these has toilets and a café. Information points are dotted throughout the park, explaining the fascinating landscape, flora and fauna.

Entrance three at Heron Way to the south of the park takes you straight into a lunar landscape, where pale yellow and white deposits contrast starkly with sandstone reds, dark cliffs, scattered vegetation and the azure sea beyond. It's like walking onto the set of a sci-fi film, with the Sugarloaf formation protruding rudely in the centre.

Walking along the coastal boardwalk will take you to the Black Cliff where forbidding dark folds in the rock can be seen clearly. These pre-Cambrian rocks are a record of the park's 600 million year old beginnings. At that time, they were submerged under a sea that covered a vast area of South Australia. A mere one million years later, the region was squeezed by massive earth movements, which folded and lifted the rocks, with subsequent erosion revealing what we see today.

Further along the cliff-top boardwalk, fossilised shells and imprints of marine creatures can be seen in some of the lighter-coloured deposits.

The native vegetation in the park is home to rather more modern wildlife. According to the park notes, 50 species of birds have



been sighted there. As well as sea birds, keep your eyes open for blue wrens, honeyeaters and black-faced cuckooshrikes. The day I walked this park, I looked down from the top of the amphitheatre to see a lone kite lazily gliding the air currents.

At the time of writing, very little water was flowing through Waterfall Creek, but it's still home to a number of species of frogs, small lizards, legless lizards, skinks and, slightly worryingly, eastern brown snakes.

Hallett Cove is also a significant cultural site boasting finds of over 1700 Aboriginal artefacts. However some other stone artefacts found there have led to the theory that the area was inhabited prior to the end of the last glacial period. Even though the park was once a glacier, sitting in the warm sunshine on the café patio, it's difficult to imagine this area in an ice age.



NEED TO KNOW

The park is within walking distance from Hallett Cove train station or drive south along the A15 and it is clearly signposted. For more info visit www.environment.sa.gov.au or call 08 8278 5477.

Walk notes

HALLET COVE

Time/Distance: various | Degree: easy



How to get great tasting lightweight hiking food.

Consider the food you take when you're bushwalking. When you're carrying it, light is good. When you're eating it, delicious is good. That's why owning a Fowlers Vacola Ultimate dehydrator makes good sense for bushwalkers.

Satisfaction and saving.

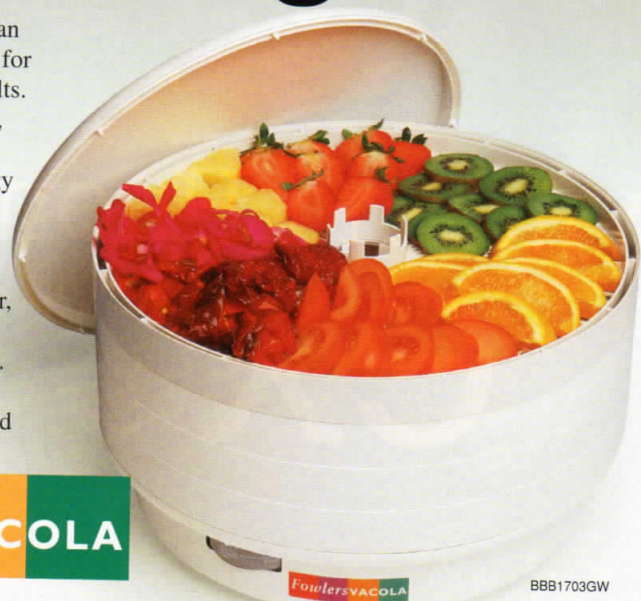
Dried foods make the ideal lightweight bushwalking meal, and when you make it yourself you save so much compared with shop bought dried food.

Quick, easy and good.

The Fowlers Vacola Ultimate is easy to use. It dries food quickly and has a full range of accessories. Best of all it has a

thermostat control so you can dry at the right temperature for great tasting nutritious results. You can make fruit leathers, beef jerky, dried soups, vegetables, meats and energy foods at a fraction of the shop bought cost.

See the Fowlers Vacola Ultimate dehydrator at Myer, Mitre 10, Home Hardware, Thrifty Link and True Value. Or call us on 1800 814 444 for recipes, free brochure and your nearest stockist.



BBB1703GW

Fowlers Vacola Australia P/L 23-25 Racecourse Road, North Melbourne Vic. 3051 Tel: (03) 9329 7799 Fax: (03) 9329 9899 email: nroy@fowlersvacola.com.au